

Serial No.: 10/762,682

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above Preliminary Amendment to place this U.S. Patent Application in better form for examination and prosecution before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

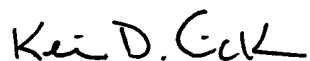
There is no additional claim fee due for this Preliminary Amendment because the total number of claims and the total number of independent claims do not exceed the number of independent and dependent claims for which fees have previously been paid.

Applicants urge that the above Preliminary Amendment introduces no new matter into this U.S. Patent Application.

Conclusion

Applicants sincerely believe that this U.S. Patent Application is now in condition for examination and prosecution before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,



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